

Romeo and Juliet

Act Four (study guide)

Please use the movie as a guide to fill out the following study guide. It will become necessary to use your text as well. You will complete the rest of this study guide in class on Wednesday.

Act Four - Scene One

Juliet is no longer the obedient child. The events of the past few days have caused her to mature. With no hope of help from her mother or the nurse she is now taking matters into her own hands. She gives the excuse that since she has displeased her father, she is going to Friar Laurence to confess her sin and be absolved. (Notice how she deals with Paris at the opening of this scene.) Once Paris is gone Juliet pleads with Friar Laurence to help her out of her predicament.

Explain in detail the plan they arrange.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Act Four - Scene Two

1. What day is it now?

2. Juliet is so convincing in her deception that her father decides to move the wedding day up from Thursday to Wednesday. What Complication does this change foreshadow?

Act Four - Scene Three

1. Complete this paraphrase of Juliet's soliloquy (lines 14-58)

Farewell! God knows when we shall _____ again. Oh, I'm so _____ that my _____ runs cold. I'll call them back to _____ me. Nurse! - But what can she do? I must do this alone. Come vial. But what if the potion doesn't _____ and I have to _____ Paris after all? I'll use this _____ on myself first! What if the Friar gave me _____ to kill me so that no one will find out that he already _____ me to Romeo? No, the Friar is proven to be a _____ man. He would not do that. But what if I _____ before _____ comes to take

me away? That's scary. Will I not _____ in the vault before _____ comes? Or if I _____, my imagination will run _____ in that horrible place where the bones of my _____ have been _____ for hundreds of years; where _____ yet recently buried lies _____ in his shroud; where _____ visit at some hours of the _____. Oh! Wouldn't those horrible _____ and _____ drive a living person _____? If I _____ will I not be so disturbed in the midst of these hideous _____ that I play with my forefather's _____ or pull _____ burial clothes off, and then in a fit of madness dash out my _____ with my _____?

Oh look! I think I see my cousin's (Tybalt's) _____ looking for _____ who cut him up with his _____. Stay back, _____ stay back! Romeo, I come! I _____ this (potion) to you.

2. List Juliet's fears as she is about to drink the potion.

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.

Act Four - Scene Four

The Capulet's are busy preparing for Juliet's wedding. The Nurse is told to wake Juliet up and get her ready.

Act Four - Scene Five

The nurse discovers Juliet's apparently lifeless body, and the happy day for the Capulet's becomes a day of sorrow.

Explain the dramatic irony in Friar Laurence's speech (lines 65-83)